



115th Indiana General Assembly
Senator Anita Bowser

Senate District 8

BIOGRAPHY



State Senator

Anita Bowser

Representing portions of LaPorte and Saint Joseph Counties

Democrat - Senate District 8

Term expires: 2008

A veteran lawmaker, State Senator Anita Bowser is widely respected as a constitutional scholar and the conscience of the Indiana State Senate.

A retired political science professor, Bowser is an outspoken advocate for civil rights, fair and free elections and the rights of workers. First elected to the Indiana House of Representatives in 1980 and then to the State Senate in 1992, Bowser serves as the ranking Democrat on the Senate's Pensions & Labor Committee. She also serves on the Judiciary; Corrections, Criminal & Civil Matters; Ethics; and Education and Career Development standing committees. She has also been appointed to the Child Custody and Support Advisory and the Sentencing Policy Study committees.

Bowser's many accomplishments include being the first woman to act as House Speaker (Deputy Speaker Pro-Tempore) in the history of the State, serving as a member of the National Democratic Platform Committee and receiving numerous honors including the Louis Ingelhart Award for Freedom of Expression, the Amnesty International Abolitionist of the Year Award and the Robert Dole Owen Legislator Award from the Indiana Civil Liberties Union twice in the 50-year history of the award. She was also a founding member and the first female to be hired to teach at Purdue University North Central.

Bowser, who resides in Michigan City, has earned several degrees including a bachelor's degree from Kent State University, a law degree from the McKinley School of Law, a master's degree from Purdue University and a master's and doctorate degree from the University of Notre Dame.

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